

Apparatus and Method for
Networking Driver Protocol Enhancement

5

ABSTRACT

Application Programming Interface, methods and apparatus are disclosed for enhancing data network communication. In a network including a first and a second network interface, each interface has an associated MAC address, and each network interface has a driver storing the MAC address for its associated interface. Under certain circumstances, such as in a fail-over condition, or to improve throughput, the second driver is conditionally directed to replace its stored MAC address with the MAC address of the first network interface. Thus, the second network interface can process network traffic as if it were the first network interface. Disclosed are several features and advantages resulting from such MAC reassignment.

10
15
20
25
30
35
40
45
50
55
60
65
70
75
80
85
90
95
100
105
110
115
120
125
130
135
140
145
150
155
160
165
170
175
180
185
190
195
200
205
210
215
220
225
230
235
240
245
250
255
260
265
270
275
280
285
290
295
300
305
310
315
320
325
330
335
340
345
350
355
360
365
370
375
380
385
390
395
400
405
410
415
420
425
430
435
440
445
450
455
460
465
470
475
480
485
490
495
500